



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 3, 2011

COLD TEMPERATURES, RAIN POSTPONE PLANTING FOR NOW

Tennessee farmers are waiting for temperatures to rise and frequent rains to cease to begin spring planting. Some fields are ready for corn planting as soon as the weather will allow it, while other fields will still need fertilizer applications before producers will be able to plant summer crops. Pastures and hay fields showed good growth before the early-week cold snap and were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. Tennessee’s winter wheat crop remained rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition. Most of the state’s fruit trees appeared to have withstood last week’s chilly weather and by week’s end, the apple crop had begun to bloom.

There were 2 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent short, 56 percent adequate and 43 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 26 percent surplus. Hay stock levels were 15 percent very short, 24 percent short, 54 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state were well below normal for most of the week but rose significantly over the weekend, averaging about 5 degrees below normal overall. Most parts of the state received near-normal precipitation.

| CROP PROGRESS | | | | | CONDITION | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|------|----------------|--------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Crop | This Week | Last Week | 2010 | Five Year Avg. | Item | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Percent | | | | | Percent | | | | | |
| Apples – Budding or Beyond | 59 | n/a | 79 | 71 | Cattle | 1 | 8 | 27 | 55 | 9 |
| Apples – Blooming or Beyond | 25 | n/a | 9 | 22 | Hay | 2 | 7 | 28 | 59 | 4 |
| Winter Wheat – Jointed | 38 | n/a | 29 | 41 | Pastures | 6 | 10 | 34 | 42 | 8 |
| Winter Wheat – Top Dressed | 86 | 81 | 81 | 83 | Winter Wheat | 0 | 2 | 18 | 59 | 21 |

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Wheat is progressing well at this point. A few scattered acres of corn were planted last week or the week before while we were experiencing warm sunny weather. All planting has come to a halt this week with cooler weather and wet conditions. According to forecasts, the next several days are expected to continue cool and wet.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“The farmers in Fayette County were not able to plant much this week due to a few showers that came through the area. Conditions are wet, but when it dries, planting of corn will be in full swing. Wheat looks good and pastures and hayfields are looking good.”

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“Another cool wet week has slowed down the growth of pastures and hay fields. Fruit trees are progressing ahead of schedule but so far no excessive damage from the cold nights. Sunshine would be a welcome sight to farmers.”

Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County

“Heavy rains likely flushed much of early applied nitrogen from pastures and hay fields. Cold weather is delaying grass growth. Those with hay are still feeding.”

David K. Glover, Smith County

“What appeared to be the start to an early spring has somewhat diminished as the last days of March has been cooler than normal and wet. Measureable rainfall was recorded everyday during the last week of March. The wheat crop is in good shape with the exception of low areas suffering from too much water. Cool season pastures are beginning to provide a little grazing for cattle and relieve some pressure on hay stocks.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Rain every other day has kept fertilizer applications on hay and pasture low so far this spring. Most corn and bean ground is not ready yet to plant.”

Scott Chadwell, Putnam County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
 For week ending: April 3, 2011 (with comparisons)

| LOCATION | TEMPERATURE | | | | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|----|-----|-----|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Week Ending April 3, 2011 | | | | Current Week 4/3/11 | Rain Days | Current Since January 1 | Departure From Normal January 1 | Current Since April 1 | Departure From Normal April 1 |
| | HI | LO | AVG | DFN | | | | | | |
| West | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ames_Plantation | 73 | 38 | 50 | -8 | 0.51 | 3 | 12.57 | -1.76 | 0.05 | -0.51 |
| Brownsville_TN | 72 | 37 | 48 | -9 | 0.83 | 3 | 12.67 | -1.64 | 0.09 | -0.42 |
| Covington | 73 | 36 | 46 | -9 | 0.69 | 2 | 12.09 | -2.13 | 0.00 | -0.54 |
| Dyersburg | 70 | 37 | 49 | -8 | 1.21 | 2 | 13.17 | -0.13 | 0.00 | -0.48 |
| Huntingdon_Wate | 70 | 36 | 48 | -7 | 0.95 | 3 | 14.31 | 0.07 | 0.00 | -0.48 |
| Jackson_Exp_Stn | 72 | 35 | 48 | -7 | 0.48 | 4 | 11.91 | -1.85 | 0.07 | -0.41 |
| Lexington_TN | 70 | 36 | 48 | -7 | 0.63 | 4 | 11.57 | -2.10 | 0.04 | -0.44 |
| Martin | 70 | 34 | 47 | -8 | 0.82 | 2 | 16.45 | 2.70 | 0.00 | -0.51 |
| Memphis_AG | 74 | 38 | 49 | -10 | 0.77 | 3 | 11.69 | -2.34 | 0.07 | -0.47 |
| Milan | 70 | 36 | 48 | -6 | 0.94 | 3 | 13.96 | -0.16 | 0.01 | -0.49 |
| Paris | 69 | 35 | 46 | -8 | 1.09 | 4 | 16.00 | 1.98 | 0.01 | -0.50 |
| Savannah_6SW | 72 | 37 | 50 | -8 | 0.45 | 4 | 14.58 | -1.42 | 0.04 | -0.50 |
| Selmer | 72 | 36 | 49 | -6 | 0.46 | 4 | 12.36 | -3.42 | 0.03 | -0.51 |
| Union_City | 70 | 34 | 47 | -7 | 0.71 | 2 | 15.17 | 1.50 | 0.00 | -0.49 |
| Middle | | | | | | | | | | |
| Clarksville_Sew | 68 | 34 | 45 | -9 | 1.19 | 3 | 16.62 | 2.47 | 0.00 | -0.50 |
| Cookeville | 63 | 32 | 43 | -10 | 1.41 | 5 | 16.14 | 0.61 | 0.09 | -0.41 |
| Crossville_AP | 59 | 32 | 43 | -9 | 1.01 | 4 | 14.72 | -0.82 | 0.07 | -0.45 |
| Dickson_AG | 85 | 35 | 49 | -6 | 1.31 | 3 | 15.21 | 0.69 | 0.00 | -0.51 |
| Dover_1W | 69 | 34 | 47 | -8 | 0.48 | 2 | 16.59 | 2.18 | 0.00 | -0.51 |
| Fayetteville_TN | 82 | 33 | 49 | -6 | 0.90 | 4 | 16.68 | 0.88 | 0.00 | -0.52 |
| Jamestown | 63 | 26 | 40 | -12 | 1.41 | 4 | 17.70 | 3.39 | 0.05 | -0.42 |
| Kingston_Spring | 69 | 36 | 46 | -7 | 1.68 | 4 | 13.12 | -1.33 | 0.03 | -0.45 |
| Lawrenceburg_Fl | 70 | 32 | 46 | -9 | 0.26 | 2 | 12.89 | -3.45 | 0.05 | -0.47 |
| Lewisburg | 78 | 27 | 45 | -8 | 1.30 | 4 | 15.32 | 0.24 | 0.06 | -0.44 |
| Linden | 70 | 34 | 47 | -7 | 1.85 | 4 | 13.68 | -1.82 | 0.05 | -0.46 |
| Livingston_WLIV | 65 | 29 | 42 | -12 | 1.37 | 5 | 19.31 | 5.34 | 0.12 | -0.33 |
| Murfreesboro_5N | 68 | 33 | 44 | -10 | 1.15 | 5 | 14.01 | -0.25 | 0.03 | -0.45 |
| Nashville_Metro | 69 | 37 | 47 | -8 | 1.67 | 3 | 12.45 | -0.24 | 0.00 | -0.45 |
| Oneida | 65 | 27 | 40 | -10 | 1.44 | 4 | 19.15 | 4.81 | 0.32 | -0.15 |
| Portland_TN | 67 | 32 | 44 | -9 | 1.37 | 3 | 16.07 | 2.30 | 0.00 | -0.47 |
| Pulaski_Water_P | 69 | 33 | 44 | -14 | 0.70 | 4 | 14.85 | -1.06 | 0.06 | -0.46 |
| Shelbyville | 81 | 34 | 48 | -8 | 0.95 | 4 | 16.37 | 0.98 | 0.00 | -0.51 |
| Sparta_TN | 64 | 34 | 44 | -10 | 1.15 | 4 | 15.73 | 0.68 | 0.05 | -0.43 |
| Springfield | 65 | 33 | 45 | -8 | 0.99 | 5 | 14.28 | 0.96 | 0.01 | -0.44 |
| Springhill | 68 | 31 | 46 | -7 | 1.53 | 5 | 12.47 | -2.67 | 0.11 | -0.42 |
| Tulahoma | 78 | 34 | 47 | -9 | 0.78 | 4 | 14.03 | -2.48 | 0.00 | -0.54 |
| East | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chattanooga/Lov | 69 | 38 | 49 | -6 | 0.93 | 3 | 18.39 | 2.16 | 0.00 | -0.50 |
| Cleveland_6NNE | 79 | 35 | 49 | -5 | 0.73 | 4 | 14.47 | -1.58 | 0.00 | -0.49 |
| Dayton | 65 | 37 | 46 | -9 | 0.99 | 5 | 16.73 | 0.19 | 0.03 | -0.49 |
| Erwin_1W | 62 | 31 | 43 | -7 | 1.07 | 6 | 11.75 | -0.18 | 0.24 | -0.18 |
| Gatlinburg_2SW | 64 | 32 | 44 | -7 | 1.57 | 6 | 14.56 | 0.17 | 0.11 | -0.34 |
| Greeneville | 65 | 30 | 44 | -8 | 0.95 | 6 | 10.68 | -0.37 | 0.06 | -0.30 |
| Kingston_AG | 65 | 32 | 45 | -7 | 1.22 | 5 | 16.53 | -0.05 | 0.08 | -0.42 |
| Knoxville_AP | 65 | 33 | 47 | -7 | 0.96 | 5 | 13.99 | 0.25 | 0.03 | -0.39 |
| Newcomb | 61 | 31 | 42 | -9 | 0.99 | 5 | 14.68 | 0.34 | 0.17 | -0.30 |
| Norris_4NE | 64 | 30 | 43 | -9 | 1.28 | 5 | 16.79 | 2.44 | 0.24 | -0.22 |
| Tri-City_RGNL_A | 65 | 29 | 45 | -7 | 1.19 | 6 | 12.89 | 2.19 | 0.14 | -0.19 |

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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